



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/822,947	03/21/97	KENNEDY	J IV/P4111US3

000881  
LARSON AND TAYLOR  
1199 NORTH FAIRFAX STREET  
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ALEXANDRIA VA 22314

QM21/0409

EXAMINER	
BRAY, W	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3725	

DATE MAILED: 04/09/98

Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application.

Commissioner of Patents

Art Unit: 3725

Claims 1-71 are in this application.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103© and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 29, 41-43 and 67-70 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75© as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim should refer to other claims in the alternative only. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims 29, 41-43 and 67-70 not been further treated on the merits.

In regards to the above, language such as "according to any one of" should be utilized where necessary.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 44 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Raybon, et al.

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Claim 46 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1-28, 30-40 and 47-66 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to W.D. Bray at telephone number (703) 308-1871.

Bray/tnt

April 1, 1998

*W.D. Bray*  
**W. DONALD BRAY**  
**EXAMINER**  
**GROUP 320**